



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 135**

January Session, 2013

House Bill No. 6455

*House of Representatives, March 25, 2013*

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs reported through REP. HENNESSY of the 127th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CREATING THE CONNECTICUT MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1      Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Adjutant General and  
2      two officers of field grade or above, appointed by the Adjutant  
3      General, shall constitute a board of officers to receive  
4      recommendations, through military channels, for the award of the  
5      medal of achievement to any member of the Connecticut National  
6      Guard who has distinguished himself or herself through outstanding  
7      achievement or meritorious service during military service ordered by  
8      the Governor, including military service performed pursuant to  
9      chapter 518 of the general statutes. A bronze oak leaf cluster shall be  
10     issued in lieu of succeeding awards and a silver oak leaf cluster may be  
11     worn in lieu of three bronze oak leaf clusters.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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VA      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Military Dept.	GF - Cost	25,000	5,000

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in a cost to the Military Department of:

1. \$20,000 in design and medal manufacturing costs in FY 14
2. \$5,000 per year starting in FY 14 related to the anticipated issuance of 200 medals.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6455*****AN ACT CREATING THE CONNECTICUT MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill establishes a medal of achievement to be awarded to any Connecticut National Guard member for outstanding achievement or meritorious service during military service ordered by the governor, including state service, federal service, and emergency service in other states.

The bill requires the adjutant general to appoint and work with two officers of field grade (i.e., the rank of major in the Army, Air Force, and Marines) or above to select medal recipients from recommendations made through military channels. For subsequent awards, recipients receive a bronze oak leaf cluster. They may wear a silver oak leaf cluster in place of three bronze oak leaf clusters.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND*****Medals, Awards, and Ribbons***

The state awards the following decorations and awards to state armed forces members, including National Guard members:

1. long service medal,
2. medal of valor,
3. medal of merit,
4. emergency service awards,

5. outstanding unit awards,
6. selected reserve force awards,
7. service ribbons for military operations after september 11, 2001,
8. ribbons and medals for veterans who served in time of war, and
9. achievement ribbons.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13      Nay 0      (03/07/2013)